

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 07557 091120Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
HA-05 TRSE-00 /071 W
-----049772 091206Z /53
R 090908Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5476

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 07557

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, MARR, RP
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS CONSTRAINTS ON AFP

REF: STATE 115030

1. WE ARE GENERALLY AWARE OF "PESOGRAM" SYSTEM, WHICH HAS EXISTED THROUGHOUT MARTIAL LAW PERIOD: ANY CITIZEN MAY SEND A COMMERCIAL TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT MARCOS CRITICIZING ANY ASPECT OF GOVERNMENT AT SUBSIDIZED COST OF ONE PESO (15 CENTS). DND PRESS RELEASES ON HUMAN RIGHTS OCCASIONALLY ALLUDE TO PESOGRAMS AS ONE WAY TO COMPLAIN ABOUT MILITARY ABUSES OF CIVILIANS. WE DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT THE SYSTEM IS USED EXTENSIVELY, ESPECIALLY IN RECENT YEARS, OR THAT IT GETS A SERIOUS RESPONSE -- CERTAINLY NOT AN AUTOMATIC ONE. REPORTS FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE, MAINLY THROUGH CHURCH SOURCES, INDICATE THAT REPORTS OF ABUSES ARE SELDOM ACTED UPON AND THAT HAVING A POWERFUL FRIEND REMAINS THE BEST WAY TO GET MEANINGFUL ACTION. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE KNOW OF NO RETRIBUTION FOR USING PESOGRAMS.

2. WE SUSPECT AFP OFFICERS' APRIL 28 STATEMENTS TO EA/PHL WERE A BIT OF DND-INSPIRED PRESS AGENCY.

3. WE WILL LOOK FURTHER INTO USE OF PESOGRAM SYSTEM AS
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OPPORTUNITIES OCCUR AND WILL REPORT AS APPROPRIATE.
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICIES, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MANILA07557
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Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780579/aaaacphn.tel
Line Count: 57
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8e8b2aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: SHUM, MARR, RP
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Type: TE
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